



BRINGING YOU THE LATEST UPDATES FROM THE MAASU BOARD
CREATED BY JANE ELLISTON, LILLIE LEE, AND JAMES LIU

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

"WHERE ARE
THEY NOW?"
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Look at our M-Reps!

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EXECUTIVE COORDINATING COMMITTEE (ECC) UPDATES



ALICE YU (EXECUTIVE CHAIR)

What did you accomplish for ECC this past month?

A few ECC members including myself were able to meet with members from ECAASU's board to start outlining future collaborations! We're also working on transitioning in Leadership Summit Planning Committee to start planning another amazing virtual conference.

What are your goals for ECC for next month?

As the semester's closing out, many organizations are starting to plan for the next semester, if they haven't already started. This would be a fantastic time to get some dates out for our collaboration with ECAASU! I'll be planning a retreat for our ECC board this winter so we can touch base and plan out the rest of the year!

What are you most excited about for Winter Break?

I feel like I've been writing non-stop since the start of the semester, from school assignments, to emails with advisors, documents at my internship, applications for grad school. I doubt that I'll get a complete break from writing, but I'm excited that my writing load won't be as heavy. I also love holiday lights, so seeing those around town will certainly lift my spirits and gives me something to look forward to!

DISCLAIMER: this was taken November 2019, pre-COVID times! This photo is of me and few friends in Edinburgh, Scotland at the Christmas Market. I loved the energy of all the lights, food, and all-around happy spirits (though prices for everything and anything were quite expensive). We did treat ourselves to some ice cream and waffles as well as hot cocoa when we strolled around four tiers of the market!

JORDAN CAO (SECRETARY)

What did you accomplish this month?

Working on collaborative projects within ECC.

What are your goals for ECC for next month?

Finishing up the collaborative projects within ECC.



Every year, my family dresses up as elves and we make cookies with each other.

...however, my photo has nothing to do with that. This is a picture from a long time ago when my brother and I got to meet the Easter bunny.



GIANG NGUYEN (PROGRAMMING CHAIR)

What did you accomplish this month?

Just a bit of progress on current projects!

What are your goals for ECC for next month?

Hoping to start assisting with the MAASU Leadership Summit this upcoming spring!

What are you most excited about for Winter Break?

Just being able to relax without worrying about school!

Me, wearing three jackets.

DANNY NGUYEN (PROGRAMMING CHAIR)

What did you accomplish this month?

Assembled resources for the upcoming MAASU Leadership Summit Planning Committee.

What are your goals for ECC for next month?

Send out the conference resources to potential MAASUx host schools.

What are you most excited about for Winter Break?

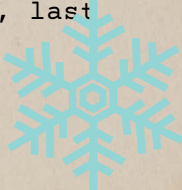
Being able to wear three jackets without looking out of place.



Me, hanging out with Santa.



Here is an attempt by my family and I on recreating a six point star! I visited them in Vietnam over Winter Break, last year!



KYLE HOANG (ADVOCACY CHAIR)

What did you accomplish this month?

I hosted the Workshop "So Election Results were shared... Now what?" where we processed the 2020 Presidential Election Results as a community. During the workshop, we also discussed some possible next-steps action items the community can take in order to keep up the momentum of advocacy work after the election.

What are your goals for ECC for next month?

I will continue helping to work on Ask Advo Podcast. I will also be continuing my work and collaboration with Communications Chair in order to provide advocacy content and valuable experiences for our M-Reps!

What are you most excited about for Winter Break?

I am most excited about getting quality time to myself and my family!!



Viet karaokeeee and photos around the treeeeeeee!!!!



JENNY TAM (ADVOCACY CHAIR)

What did you accomplish this month?

We finished podcast 2. We are also working to support AAJC with one of their current projects around affirmative action.

Here is the link for the podcast:
<https://linktr.ee/AskAdvo>

What are your goals for ECC for next month?

Hopefully another podcast and to prepare for Spring!

What are you most excited about for Winter Break?

EVERYTHING!!!!!!
to breathe air without productivity.





LILLIE LEE (PUBLIC RELATIONS)

What did you accomplish this month?

MAASU held an amazing and enriching processing space with discussions on Black Lives Matter and election results. Shout out to Kyle for being an awesome facilitator and providing great resources to help individuals create their action plans. In the meantime, I accomplished some work towards important dates posts as well as this newsletter.

What are your goals for ECC for next month?

My goals for ECC next month is deep reflection. Despite the work being done, I really want to be reflective as to how I am posting content and how accessible our sources might actually be. I also want to work on showcasing MAASU history on LinkedIn and work with DC to make graphics for this.

What is something your family does over Winter Break?

My family and I usually watched and participated in the city Christmas parades because my brother and I used to play in High School band and participated in them with our marching band. It would be tiring, cold, but fun, and it got fun to finally be a spectator while my brother was marching. Although it might not be possible now, we still do fun holiday simple shenanigan's and wear matching pajamas, drink hot cocoa, etc.

Last year during Winter Break, I got to go shopping in Kansas City and St. Louis a couple times which was pretty fun!



JANE ELLISTON (PUBLIC RELATIONS)

What did you accomplish this month?

To be honest, this semester has taken a rather large toll on me. Therefore, I've been taking it pretty easy this past month. Really the only things I've done is help approve Leadership Summit posts and prep this newsletter.

What are your goals for ECC for next month?

I know that there are a couple projects at hand, so I intend to work on those, as well as schedule next semester's important dates posts.

What are you most excited about for Winter Break?

Right now, I want nothing more than to spend an entire weekend cuddled up in a ball under my blankets and sleep all day.



Me and family watching the Christmas parade!





SAM BOSSLEY (TECHNICAL NETWORKING)

What did you accomplish this month?

I have been working on storage for the various content on MAASU platforms. We have also just finished a successful virtual fall conference! The conference went well and I look forward to the next conference this upcoming spring.

What are your goals for ECC for next month?

One of my major goals for the next month is to rest. It's important to find and make time to just rest. I've been working too hard and doing too much and I need to give myself a break.

What are you most excited about for Winter Break?

I'm most excited for the extra time to sleep, if I'm being completely honest.



My family watch hella movies and stay up really late every night. I don't usually spend winter break at home since I return to campus to work, but I usually do the same anyhow.



JEWEL LO (COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR)

What did you accomplish this month?

I received feedback from M-Reps on the recent Fall Conference, met with our Director of Finance and Partnerships, Jessica Lee, to talk about the MAASU #GivingTuesday incentive for member schools, and revamped the M-Rep Survival Guide.

What are your goals for ECC for next month?

Work towards implementing a buddy / group system within M-Repps and Advocacy Co-Chairs.

What are you most excited about for Winter Break?

TO TAKE A BREAK. Nah jk, I can't take breaks during my last year. I'm going to focus on looking for spring remote internships and potential jobs post-grad. For the most part, I'm going to try to relax and reconnect with some hobbies I picked up over the summer.



For winter breaks, my family usually meet together as a family and just annoy each other. It's actually very pleasant.

When we took this family photo my brother Craig was unable to come back home for Christmas. To compensate, we decided to take a photo next to a pine tree and photoshop Craig's face on the tree - but my mom shot down the idea and chose not to post that photo. That photo may be on Facebook somewhere...





My friends, Jewel and Lillie, and I were trying to take a candid photo while at a friend's late Christmas celebration.



SEAN KIM (MEMBERSHIP OUTREACH CHAIR)

What did you accomplish this month?

I've been working on getting onboarded onto MAASU and figuring out all the details.

What are your goals for ECC for next month?

Start reaching out to more schools!

CHEE XIONG (MEMBERSHIP OUTREACH CHAIR)

What did you accomplish this month?

My co-chair and I transitioned into our position and met up to set some goals that we wanted to accomplish within our position. We were able to help a school out in their onboarding process to become a member school!

What are your goals for ECC for next month?

My co-chair Sean and I are working on creating a membership pamphlet and are looking to collaborate with the Communication Chair and Secretary on it to talk about possible ideas in re-vamping the membership benefits. Lastly, we will continue to reach out to schools and update the membership list.

What are you most excited about for Winter Break?

This semester has been a rollercoaster ride so I am excited to rest, relax, and replenish for winter break. I am also excited to catch up virtually with family and friends I haven't seen in a while.



What are you most excited about for Winter Break?

Being able to relax and not have to worry about school!





Making a gingerbread house with my partner, Jonathon!



JAMES LIU (DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS)

What did you accomplish this month?

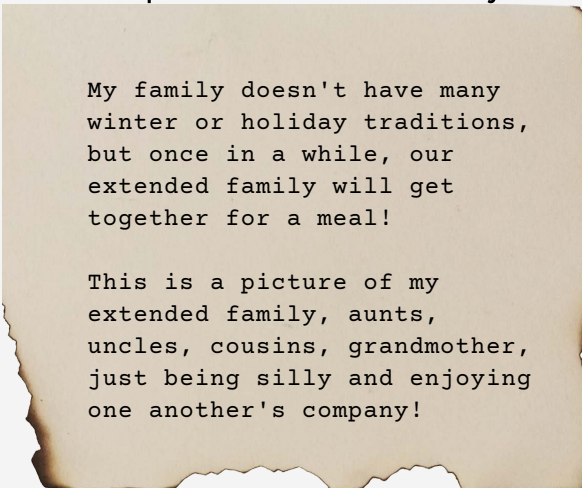
This past month I worked with the rest of the DC on December's #GivingTuesday!

What are your goals for ECC for next month?

Continue with MAA Alum letters, assist the DC and the ECC on any holiday campaigns, and select Directors Council Committee candidates!

What are you most excited about for Winter Break?

For Winer Break, I am most excitetd to have a few weeks to relax, breathe, and catch up with friends and family!



My family doesn't have many winter or holiday traditions, but once in a while, our extended family will get together for a meal!

This is a picture of my extended family, aunts, uncles, cousins, grandmother, just being silly and enjoying one another's company!

VICTORIA YU (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR)

What did you accomplish this month?

For the month of November, I worked with Jordan Cao on MAASU's new Wikipedia page, organized MAASU historical documents, worked with the Directors Council on MAASU's #GivingTuesday fundraiser, met with the 2021 Leadership Summit Planning Committee, and worked with Sam Bossley on updating some website content.

What are your goals for ECC for next month?

Continue to support the ECC and DC, maintain collaborative efforts with ECAASU, and assist the 2021 Leadership Summit team in any way possible.

What is something your family does over Winter Break?

We usually do a family trip during Winter Break. Last year, we visited Ireland and Scotland. This year we were thinking about a trip to Australia, but COVID...





DAVID LEE (DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING AND ASSESSMENTS)

What did you accomplish this month?

Wrapped up Fall Conference assessment and its responses. Thank you to everyone who responded! It's been very helpful. Additionally, I finished drafting graphics for our #GivingTuesday campaign.

What are your goals for ECC for next month?

Finalizing our numbers and assessments for this whole year. Also, will be working with our new DCC member! Stay tuned.

What is something your family does over Winter Break?

My extended family always gets together to play Secret Santa. It's always exciting as the gift wrappers get very creative!



This is a photo of me at the southwest tip! I don't have any recent photos of me out in winter, but this year I plan to snowshoe in the mountains!

JESSICA LEE (DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND PARTNERSHIP)



What did you accomplish this month?

We rolled out our #GivingTuesday campaign.

What are your goals for ECC for next month?

End the year strong!

What is something your family does over Winter Break?

We typically go and visit Taiwan and see family, but because of COVID, our trip has been postponed.



I always enjoy exploring my city during the winter! This is a photo of my partner and I during Super Bowl week in 2019, when the Super Bowl was held here in Minneapolis!



M-Rep Spotlight

WESLEY NGUYEN

(he, him, his)

Wesley Nguyen is a Second year at The Ohio State University. He is majoring Computer Science and Engineering.

Why did you choose to become a M-Rep?

I choose to be an M-Rep because I wanted to gain experiences working with others in a position of advocacy. I am learning the names and faces of my fellow M-Reps in our meetings and it is very comforting.

What have you gained from becoming a M-Rep?

I have gained connections to other schools and insight into the experiences of others across the Midwest!

Wacky fun fact:

I love Lindt Lindor White Chocolate Truffles. Also, have you heard of the Mac and Cheese from J. Alexander's? I am SUPER passionate about food.



A piece of advice for future M-Reps?

I would say step outside your comfort zone! There are so many opportunities waiting for you to experience them.

M-Rep Spotlight

BENJAMIN DOMINGO

(he, him, his)

Benjamin Domingo is a Third year at Ausburg University majoring in Exercise Science.

Why did you choose to become a M-Rep?

I chose to become a M-Rep so that way I could help improve my leadership skills as an Asian representative of our school organization to help bring those skills back into campus.

What have you gained from becoming a M-Rep?

I have gained a few new communication skills, programming ideas, and a doorway into a larger community!

Wacky fun fact:

I sing to myself in front of a mirror as if I'm practicing for a concert. The shampoo bottles are my ever-faithful audience.



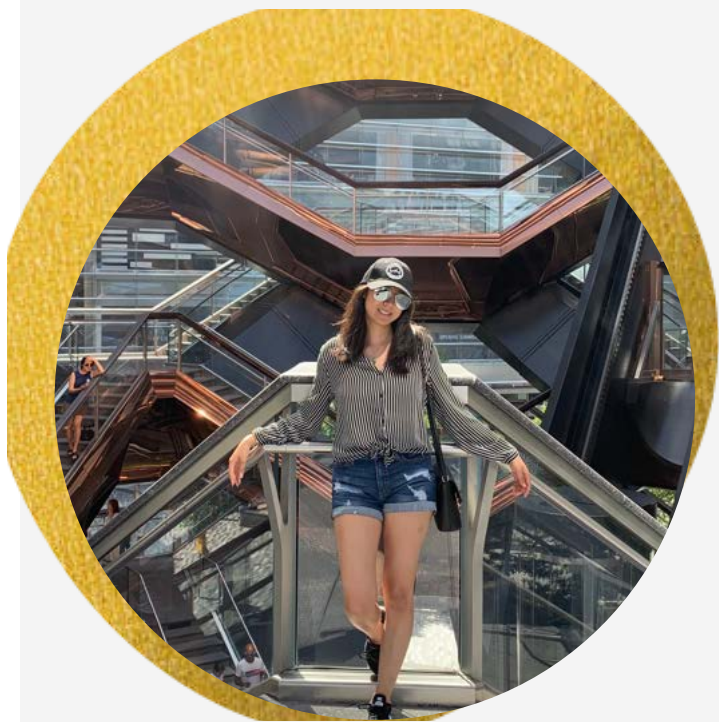
What have you gained from MAASU?

I'm new this year but so far, the community has been extremely welcoming and open. I would say I gained a safe community to partake and discuss in.

Any piece of advice for future M-Reps?

Network and communicate as much as possible. It helps keep things ahead of schedule and organized before school starts!

MAASU Alumni: Where are They Now?



D A P H N E Y U

She/Her/Hers

Daphne Yu is currently a Media Intelligence Analyst. She graduated from the University of Missouri in 2018 with a Bachelor of Journalism and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science then received her Master's in Political Science from the University of Chicago in 2019.

What did you want to be when you were younger?

I wanted to be an author! I LOVED reading as a kid. I used to read a book a day in elementary school and I think my record was 36 books in three weeks during the summer one year. My dream was to be a writer like J.K. Rowling one day.

What does your day to day life look like?

A good chunk of it is work. I also run an average of 3-6 miles a day, compile recipes and research ingredients, listen to podcasts, and watch mystery shows.

What are your responsibilities as a Media Intelligence analyst?

I curate daily briefings for the c-suite or executives and employees at multinational food companies on industry news, issues, policies, competitor news, emerging trends, and more. I am on the food pod, so we work with a number of food corporations that produce products worldwide.

What do you like about your current job?

I love anything that has to do with food, and that's basically my job. I get to learn about food trends, food policies, environmental issues, ingredient innovations, and new products on a daily basis. My position is also a remote position (even before the pandemic), so I love the freedom to be able to work from anywhere in the world...pre-pandemic I had international trips and travel planned, which I look forward to resuming once it is safe to do so again.

What is your favorite MAASU memory?

My favorite memory would have to be being on ECC and getting to meet everyone in person at MAASU Leadership Summit (LS) and Spring Conference (SC).

What years were you a part of ECC?

I joined at the end of the 2013-2014 school year and stayed on until the end of the 2016-2017 school year.



MAASU Executive Coordinating Committee (ECC) 2014-2015 pictured above

What was your Role in ECC?

I served as Communications Chair in 2014-2015. From 2015-2017 I served as the Executive Chair.

If you could do anything differently, what would it be?

Spend more time investing in the present and enjoying experiences!

A piece of advice for future graduates?

Make sure to take the time for a breather amid all the schoolwork and extracurricular activities and take care of yourself as well.

MAASU Executive Coordinating Committee (ECC) 2016-2017 pictured down below





The University of Missouri is excited to host MAASU Leadership Summit: Root, Rise, Reflect! Leadership Summit (LS) will be a virtual conference held from March 19-21, 2021 focused on leadership development for Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) students. Stay tuned on MAASU's Facebook and social media as we announce more information!

Instagram:

@maasuofficial

Website:

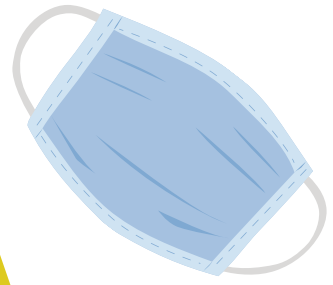
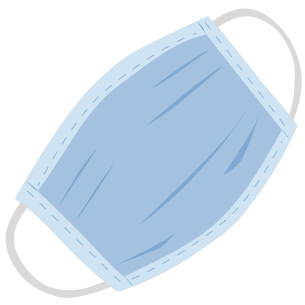
<https://www.maasu.org/>



Apply to be a Family Leader for the 2021 virtual MAASU Leadership Summit! As a Family Leader, you'll play a vital role in welcoming and guiding small groups through activities, bonding, and engaging with the APIDA experience. Apply by Wednesday, Dec. 9 at 11:59 pm CST:

<https://bit.ly/MAASULSFamilyLead>

The MAASU Leadership Summit Workshop applications are open and will close on Friday, Jan. 1 at 11:59 PM CST. The Planning Committee is looking for experienced volunteers to create thoughtful dialogue with our attendees! Anyone is eligible to apply, as long as the workshop content relates to our theme of "Root, Rise, Reflect": <https://bit.ly/3p4gS9o>



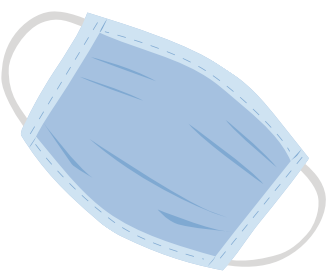
PROJECT COVID-19

Since this past March, MAASU has teamed up with the East Coast Asian American Student Union (ECAASU) and the Midwest Chinese American Students Association (MCASA) to help fundraise funds to purchase personal protective equipment (PPE) and ship them frontline healthcare workers across the nation.

We have already raised over \$5000 with the help of many generous donors! With the pandemic on the rise, we are once again gathering our efforts to be better prepared. Please share our GoFundMe, linked below, and donate, if you can!



Mask up, social distance, and please stay safe!



DIRECTORS COUNCIL ALUMNI UPDATES

Directors Council Committee (DCC)

Recently, the Directors Council (DC) introduced the DCC as an opportunity for MAASU alumni with specific knowledge, skills, and expertise to assist MAASU with special projects. For more information on potential projects or the DCC application, please scan the QR code below or visit <https://www.maasu.org/dc> :



As always, if you have any questions/concerns or any ideas, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at directorscouncil@maasu.org.



#GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement on December 1, 2020 that encourages people to do good and has inspired hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity.

We hope you will be able to join MAASU for #GivingTuesday on 12/1/2020. Your generous support will help MAASU implement more educational and leadership development opportunities for Asian American students across the Midwest, assist with general operation needs, and provide enriching community programming.

Consider donating...

- **\$30:** General Operations + Celebrate MAASU for being around for 30 years!
- **\$50:** Help cover costs for students to register and travel to future MAASU conferences
- **\$100:** Scholarship for an APIDA student organization that may lack institutional support
- **\$250:** Contribute to the Charles Chang Leadership Scholarship for students

MAASU is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, completely volunteer based, dedicated to supporting and building community for Asian American students across the Midwest. All donations to MAASU are tax deductible.

Consider donating...

\$30: General Operations + Celebrate MAASU for being around for 30 years!

\$50: Help cover costs for students to register and attend future MAASU conferences

\$100: Scholarship for an APIDA student organization that may lack institutional support

\$250: Contribute to the Charles Chang Leadership Scholarship for students

Each donation helps us demonstrate the importance of MAASU to the past, current, and future student communities and no amount is too small.

We hope you will consider donating online and help advance MAASU's mission of supporting Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) students and student groups across the Midwest. MAASU is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, completely volunteer-based, dedicated to supporting and building community for APIDA students across the Midwest. All donations to MAASU are tax-deductible.

